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To whom it may concern:

As a private pilot (currently attending ASU's aero-tech program) I am a little shocked at the blatant disgust for aircraft presented by environmentalists. I visited the Canyon over the winter break and took the train into the park. The train ride up was very enjoyable, as was my hike along the rim to one of the many lookout points. Unfortunately, the smokey busses and rude drivers tarnished my otherwise spectacular first (and NOT final) visit to the Canyon.

General and commercial aviation is in the process of testing new engines, fuels and propeller/jet systems to limit noise and maximize fuel efficiency. This is a very involved process, as most that deal with the US government are. My only request as both a pilot and a citizen interested in preserving our environment is to please be patient and work WITH us, not against aviation.

Airplanes require no roads or parking in the canyon and with respect to noise and minimal air pollution, eliminate environmental impact on the surface of the canyon. In contrast to the current mayhem at the rim caused by autos and busses, I would seriously consider the future of aviation in and over the canyon a positive and beneficial resource. For those that wish to hike or visit the facilities at the rim on foot, the Grand Canyon Railway is a terrific, and established, solution to the current traffic jams.

Thank you for your time and understanding!

Sincerely,

Rob Artac

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